

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 YAOUND 00305 211551Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

/071 W

-----212033Z 129041 /43

R 211300Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 781

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 305

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, CM, KN

SUBJECT: END OF NORTH KOREAN TEMPEST IN YAOUNDE TEA CUP

REF: (A) 76 YAOUNDE 4554; (B) LAGOS 247; (C) NDJAMENA 195

1. YAOUNDE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY AND PROBABLY GURC HEAVED IMMENSE SIGH RELIEF WHEN YI CHA-KYONG, NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR AND ERSTWHILE DEAN LOCAL DIP CORPS FINALLY LEFT JANUARY 6. CULMINATING TWO MONTHS SERIES AMUSING INCIDENTS ENTERTAINING LOCAL INTERNATIONAL GATHERINGS, EVEN YI DEPARTURE NOT IN DIGNITY SINCE SOUTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR YOON WAS ON SAME PLANE AND THERE SEVERAL ANXIOUS MOMENTS ON MAKING BOARDING AND SEATING ARRANGEMENTS TO AVOID DIPLOMATIC INCIDENT.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 YAOUND 00305 211551Z

2. YI'S TRAVAIL BEGAN IN NOVEMBER AS HE MADE PREMATURE GRAB FOR DEANSHIP (REFGEL) WHEN IT ANNOUNCED THAT ZAIROISE AMBASSADOR TUMA-WAKU DIA BAZIKA, FORMER DEAN, BEING TRANSFERRED PEKING. YI REQUESTED CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FAREWELL PRESENT FOR TUMA-WAKU AS "DOYEN" BUT INVITED GUESTS FAREWELL PARTY AS NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR. SOUTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR NOT INVITED AND PROTESTED FOREIGN OFFICE. FOREIGN MINISTER KEUTCHA CALLED YI ON CARPET AND

SAID UNLESS HE RECEIVED ASSURANCES FROM HIM IN WRITING THAT YI WOULD INVITE ALL MEMBERS DIP CORPS ALL FUNCTIONS HELD BY DOYEN, THEN YI COULD NOT SERVE. YI, NATURALLY, UNABLE GIVE SUCH ASSURANCES AND SO HE PASSED OVER IN FAVOR ITALIAN AMBASSADOR GUIDO NATALI.

3. IN EARLY DECEMBER RUMORS BEGAN THAT YI WOULD BE LEAVING SHORTLY. TWO EXPLANATIONS WERE THAT PYONGYANG WAS EITHER DISSATISFIED WITH YI'S PERFORMANCE IN THIS AFFAIR OR UNHAPPY THAT GURC HAD NOT GIVEN HIM DEANSHIP, WITH LIKELIHOOD THAT THE TRUTH PROBABLY INVOLVED A LITTLE OF BOTH, BUT HE ALSO HAD FINISHED NORMAL TOUR (ONE MONTH SHORT OF FOUR YEARS). IN ANY EVENT, IT BECAME COMMON KNOWLEDGE BY SECOND WEEK DECEMBER YI BEING RECALLED. YOON CONSEQUENTLY CONGRATULATED BY HIS FRIENDS AS IF HE HAD WON GREAT SPORTING EVENT. THERE THEN FOLLOWED SEVERAL BIZARRE INCIDENTS AT DIPLOMATIC RECEPTIONS WHERE YI NEGOTIATED WITH DOYEN NATALI OVER NATURE OF AFFAIR TO BE GIVEN FOR HIS DEPARTURE AND DEPARTURE GIFT. ON ONE PATHETIC OCCASION YI, WITH OPEN TROUSERS, EFFUSIVELY Slobbered OVER THE DIGNIFIED NATALI IN APPRECIATION WHEN THE LATTER RELUCTANTLY AGREED GIVE RECEPTION INSTEAD OF VIN D'HONNEUR. FAREWELL GIFT REQUESTED BY YI TURNED OUT TO BE LAVISH \$200 SILVER TRAY, WHICH FAR MORE THAN TOKEN GIFTS NORMALLY CHOSEN BY DEPARTING AMBASSADORS (AND FOR WHICH YI HAD TO PAY HALF, BECAUSE IT OVER BUDGET AND THERE FEWER CONTRIBUTIONS THAN USUAL). LOCAL SUSPICIONS ARE THAT IT WILL END UP AS GIFT TO ILLUSTRIOUS LEADER KIM IL SUNG.

4. GURC, CORRECT AND PROPER TO END, HAD PRIME MINISTER BIYA HOST DIPLOMATIC LUNCHEON FOR YI DECEMBER 27 WHICH FOREIGN MINISTER AND FOUR OTHER MINISTERS ATTENDED. BIYA EXPRESSED CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 YAOUND 00305 211551Z

HOPE KOREA COULD BE UNIFIED PEACEFULLY WITHOUT FOREIGN INTER-FERENCE AND PRAISED PYONGYANG'S GOOD WILL IN SPITE ITS LIMITED MEANS.

5. IN VIEW INCREASED DPRK ACTIVITIES IN AREA (ESTABLISHMENT RESIDENT EMBASSIES REPORTED REFTELS B AND C), ASSESSMENT CURRENT RELATIONS BETWEEN NORTH KOREA AND CAMEROON FOLLOWS SEPTTEL. SPIRO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC CORPS DEAN, DIPLOMATIC PROTOCOL, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977YAOUNDE00305
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770023-0428
Format: TEL
From: YAOUNDE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770128/aaaaaydz.tel
Line Count: 105
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c5c4b7d2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 YAOUNDE 4554, 77 LAGOS 247, 77 NDJAMENA 195
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3530907
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: END OF NORTH KOREAN TEMPEST IN YAOUNDE TEA CUP
TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, CM, KN, KS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c5c4b7d2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009